

5/20/98

To: Mark Young

I'm sure you are aware of this activity. R
Just what you need. It would be terrible if one of our people attempted to "concern" ^{mgm} ~~offer~~, "switch sell" one of these undercover agents. Be careful is an understatement.

ZMM

UNDERCOVER TEENS: A squad of undercover teen-age agents will be used to nab New York City merchants who sell cigarettes to minors, the city Department of Consumer Affairs said. The "Summer Smoke Out" will pay about 100 teens \$6.25 an hour to try to buy tobacco from the more than 15,000 licensed sellers. Those caught selling to people under 18 face fines of up to \$300 for a first violation. Three violations can bring a fine of \$1,000 and a one-year license suspension. Commissioner Jules Polonetsky said the goal was not to trap merchants, but he warned that "the next teen you sell cigarettes to may be working for the DCA."



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